



Ministerial Alliance Against the Digital Divide

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PO Box 10554 • Chicago, Illinois 60610

www.maadd.org

December 7, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
235 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

The Ministerial Alliance Against the Digital Divide (MAADD) would like to voice its support for Congressman Bobby Rush and encourage you to support his bid for the ranking member position on the House Subcommittee on Communications, Technology and the Internet (CTI).

Founded in 2003, MAADD is a 30,000+ member, next-generation civil rights organization led by ministers devoted to bridging the digital divide and promoting personal and economic development in low-income and minority communities across the country. MAADD works through our church communities to build grassroots networks that engage in activism to promote solutions that build a better tomorrow. Our existing minister network has a reach of over 350,000 people and we currently have chapters in 6 states. MAADD's membership includes individuals from all ethnicities and backgrounds who are committed to advancing technology as a means to transform the economic, social, political and cultural landscapes in our nation's underserved communities.

As a group headquartered in Congressman Rush's district, MAADD is extremely proud of the work that the Congressman has accomplished during his long and storied career. Since his election to Congress in November of 1992, Congressman Rush has tirelessly strived to improve the quality of life for his constituents in the 1st district and in underserved communities throughout the country.

From his excellent record on consumer issues and technology policy to his legislative achievements, Congressman Rush has been a staunch advocate for the rights of the underserved and has worked to extend the benefits of technology to these communities. During his tenure, Congressman Rush has had to tackle many difficult issues yet; he has always listened to the needs of his community and acted on those interests accordingly. He has been continually recognized by his peers and his constituents for his work as an effective and thoughtful leader.

As the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection (CTCP), Congressman Rush has acquired a deep knowledgebase and vast experience in the intricacies of technology and communications policy, which he has translated into tangible policies that have benefited the people in our communities. In fact, during the 111th Congress, Congressman Rush successfully shepherded more than a dozen bills out the committee, two of which, the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act and Wall



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Street Reform Act, were signed into law. Moreover, Congressman Rush collaborated with his colleagues on the CTI committee to address issues ranging from public safety and consumer protection to online privacy and data security legislation.

MAADD is confident that if Congressman Rush is chosen as the ranking member of the CTI subcommittee, he will be able to work with his counterparts across the aisle to craft legislative solutions that will ensure consumer protection standards and help bridge the digital divide by extending the many benefits of broadband to those in need.

Congressman Rush's service speaks for itself and is a testament to his legislative and leadership abilities. MAADD encourages you to support Congressman Rush's bid for this important position because we believe he is the best candidate for the job.

Sincerely,

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CC: The Honorable Steny Hoyer, House Majority Leader
The Honorable James Clyburn, House Majority Whip
The Honorable Henry Waxman, Chair of the House Committee on Energy and
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The Honorable Bobby Rush